03050205-030

(Edisto River)

General Description

Watershed 03050205-030 is located in Colleton and Dorchester Counties and consists primarily of the *Edisto River* and its tributaries from Cattle Creek to Indian Field Swamp. The watershed occupies 46,571 acres of the Lower Coastal Plain region of South Carolina. The predominant soil types consist of an association of the Chipley-Rains-Leon-Hobcaw-Lynchburg series. The erodibility of the soil (K) averages 0.15 and the slope of the terrain averages 1%, with a range of 0-2%. Land use/land cover in the watershed includes: 53.9% forested land, 24.9% forested wetland (swamp), 14.8% agricultural land, 4.4% barren land, 1.3% water, 0.4% nonforested wetland (marsh), and 0.3% urban land.

This watershed accepts the drainage from the upstream reach of the Edisto River. This section of the river flows past Colleton State Park and accepts drainage from Brickhouse Branch, Crooked Creek, and Skull Branch. There are a total of 69.5 stream miles and 166.3 acres of lake waters in this watershed, all classified FW.

Surface Water Quality

Station #	<u>Type</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Description</u>
E-014	S/W	FW	EDISTO RIVER AT US 15, S OF ST. GEORGE
E-086	P/INT	FW	EDISTO RIVER AT S-18-29

Edisto River – There are two SCDHEC monitoring sites along this section of the Edisto River. Aquatic life and recreational uses are fully supported at the upstream site (**E-014**); however, there is a significant increasing trend in turbidity. There is an increasing trend in pH. Prior to 2001, this was a secondary monitoring station and sampling was intentionally biased towards periods with potentially low dissolved oxygen concentrations. Significant decreasing trends in five-day biochemical oxygen demand and total phosphorus suggests improving conditions for this parameter.

Aquatic life and recreational uses are also fully supported at the downstream site (**E-086**). There is a significant increasing trend in pH. A significant increasing trend in dissolved oxygen concentration and significant decreasing trends in five-day biochemical oxygen demand, turbidity, and total nitrogen concentration suggest improving conditions for these parameters.

A fish consumption advisory has been issued by the Department for mercury and includes streams within this watershed (see advisory p.38).

NPDES Program

Active NPDES Facilities

RECEIVING STREAM FACILITY NAME PERMITTED FLOW @ PIPE (MGD)

EDISTO RIVER SCE&G/CANADYS STATION PIPE #: 001,002,04A, 04B, 005 FLOW: MR PIPE #: 003 FLOW: 1.18

PIPE #: 003 FLOW: 1.18 PIPE #: 006 FLOW: 3.79 NPDES# TYPE COMMENT

SC0002020 MAJOR INDUSTRIAL

Growth Potential

There is a low potential for growth in this watershed.